

# THE INFO CHANNEL

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1220

RADIO & TELEVISION BROADCAST ENGINEERS

January/February 2014

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## Eboard Vacancies

There are several vacancies on the Eboard. Meetings are once a month (3rd Wednesday) at 7:00pm. If you are interested, please call or email your Union Hall today.

## Help Needed

We need volunteers for our quarterly audits. Requirements: need to be able to use a calculator and a pencil. A full audit is done by our accountants in late February/ early March. Lunch or dinner will be provided as well as support and guidance from staff and volunteers.

Please call us with your availability in February. Afternoon or evening sessions available for your convenience.

## CLTV

Welcome aboard to our newest shop. We have several new Producers working at WGN for the CLTV. It's been a rough year but we've finally ratified a contract for these good folks. If you have an opportunity, say hi and lend your support. Make our newest Brothers and Sisters feel welcome.

## Progress Report

CBS Radio IT—reached an agreement with CBS. Ratification was successful and we are excited about our newest unit.

WCEV— a two year deal was reached and ratified.

WTTW—working through a 1 year extension agreement. This will encompass a wage increase, no layoff clause, new hires, relocation of employees to production when MC moves to Jacksonville.

CBS—gearing up for preliminary early negotiations at the end of February.

Sports and Entertainment Agreements—working through negotiations with several contractors. Ratification ballots will be going out later this month.

FS 1—Contract to exclusively do FS1 work at the Allstate Arena has been extended until Feb. 28th.

# Business Manager Report

Brothers and Sisters,

Now that we are at the end of January and heading into February, the bitter arctic cold is letting us know that spring is nowhere in sight. As work picks up we have to be ever mindful of our health and safety. If your contract allows for extreme weather gear, request it now. If you don't get it, call me immediately. If your contract doesn't allow for it, prepare. Pack and wear warm gloves, layer, take frequent breaks in heated areas, and exercise common sense. If you can't feel your fingers or toes, take a break and get warmed up. The story or shot can wait until you're safe.

This month the Business Managers met with the International Officers to go over CBS contract suggestions. Although we are looking at entering into limited bargaining, all issues were brought up and discussed. Over 70 suggestions were talked about and debated. Several topics from WBBM dealt with the assignment desk encouraging technicians to speed, park illegally, trespass, etc. Questions were asked on how to deal with the situation when instructed to do something that puts your safety at risk. The answer is simple, tell the desk your concerns citing safety. Call your Union hall if you're still asked/told to do something legally questionable or unsafe. We will put a stop to it before it's too late.

In late February we will be meeting with CBS to begin bargaining. As we had stated with the surveys, the bargaining will be extremely limited and focus on a handful of items. WTTW talks are proceeding in a similar fashion which will hopefully result in a 1 year extension with a wage increase and job protections. We are meeting with the company and the plan provider for the company's "Wellness Plan" to discuss new concerns brought up at the last minute in contract discussions.

The Auto Show is making its annual appearance at McCormick Place and throughout the city. This year promises to be extremely busy. I will be on site visits throughout the week to talk to our members and make sure the contracts are being adhered to. One thing that has become painfully clear is that we do not have enough qualified EIC's (Engineer/TDs) and V2s to plug into the ballroom/corporate shows. Show rosters are filling up fast and last minute gigs are popping up all over the city. It's now time to step up and train for these positions.

Your Union will be committed to offering a complete engineering "boot camp" by the end of 2014. It will be offered to those that possess the skills, aptitude, and drive to advance themselves to this next level. Contractor input will also be a determining factor. This will not be training for the casual class attendee. This will require a commitment to be in it for the long haul. Information will be posted when details become available.

We are also lining up our second EVS training class. We are finally receiving our grants from the Chicago Federation of Labor and as soon as we get our reimbursement from the 2013 class, we will schedule another week long training session with a basic recap class and an advanced class. Any help or aid our members are willing to give to get us access to trucks with EVS systems would be greatly appreciated.

Yours in Solidarity,



John Rizzo  
Business Manager

# The President's Message

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What if Martin Luther King was alive today?

If Martin Luther King were alive today, what would he think of what our nation has become?

I'm sure he'd see much that would vindicate his struggles for racial equality. Certainly, he'd be more than pleased—probably surprised—to see a black American in the White House and minorities voting everywhere.

For those who did not live through those times, it might be hard to imagine the discrimination and segregation that existed, based on race, not only in the South, but here in Ohio and much of the nation. Schools rigidly segregated, as well as neighborhoods, restaurants, and motels, with public offices held almost entirely by whites.

"Colored" drinking fountains and restrooms, a glass partition between dining areas in a bus station, a requirement that blacks sit in the balcony of the theater. State parks set aside as "whites only." Millions of people denied the basic Constitutional right to vote.

Painful, and yes, embarrassing to remember those times. How could we? But Dr. King led the effort — joined by many whites — to change all that. They risked their lives, and he and others paid with their lives, fighting for equality.

Before he was shot and killed in 1968, he had been jailed 29 times for disobeying segregationist laws or orders not to protest, and stabbed and nearly killed. He worked, he said in his most famous speech, for a nation in which his children, and ours, would be judged not by the "color of their skin, but by the content of their character."

But as happy as he would be with our progress in desegregating public places and opening the doors of opportunity in government, business, sports, and entertainment, Dr. King would not be happy with our seemingly endless wars.

He turned against the long conflict in Southeast Asia, warning that "the bombs we drop abroad, explode at home in poverty and unemployment."

The longest war of his time — Vietnam — is now being replaced with an even longer war of our time, in Afghanistan.

President Eisenhower's warning to beware of "the military-industrial complex" has not been heeded, and instead of solving the problems of poverty here at home, our leaders have wasted too much of our resources on a military that is larger than the next 10 countries combined.

The result has been wage levels, after inflation is calculated, that have dropped almost every year since 1968.

If we want to honor Dr. King, we need to remember that he was killed in Memphis, marching for the right of public employees to organize and strike over their poor wages and working conditions.

He would be dismayed to see that in Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, and other states, the governors and other leaders in their political party have waged a war on workers, trying to turn back the clock to where it was at the time of his death.

He would certainly be saddened, as many of us are, to see how President Obama—that first black President—is vilified by the opposition party and its supportive radio and TV media.

He was a very bright man, so he might not be surprised that this moderate President is called the "food stamp President," a "socialist," or shouted at while addressing Congress by an overly angry South Carolina politician.

What advice would Dr. King give us, if he were here in his 84th year to speak again? He believed firmly in non-violence, so I'm sure his solution to killers invading schools would not be for us to put guns in the schools.

*(Continued on page 5)*

# Scarborough Alliance Group

## Working with IBEW members & retirees in many industries

[Decades of Experience, Service & Objective Advice](#)

Scarborough Alliance Group is proud to help IBEW members who work in a variety of industries with their retirement planning needs.

IBEW members can take advantage of the [Local Union Retirement Income Program](#), especially designed to accept roll-overs of your company 401(k) and pension plans. Other plans and investment options include the [IBEW Local Unions Savings & Retirement Plan](#) and [Investment Advisory Accounts](#).

IBEW Telecommunications Members working for Verizon and AT&T are eligible to use the [IBEW Local Unions Savings & Security Plan](#) to rollover your company 401(k) and lump sum pension. The plan may also be used by participating IBEW Locals and represented employers as a 401(k) plan.

We look forward to helping you understand all of the options available to you. Contact Scarborough today at **(800) 223-7608** to learn more.

## Scarborough offers investment advisory accounts with Schwab Institutional

While some of Scarborough's plans are exclusively for IBEW members, family members and friends are welcome to become investment advisory clients.

Consistent with our other plans, we offer low-cost investments<sup>1</sup> and, very importantly, we provide honest, straightforward advice. We can develop an investment plan that's customized to meet the needs of your unique situation. Advisory accounts offer a broad selection of investments, including:

Mutual Funds, Stocks, Bonds, Money Market, Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs), IRAs (Traditional & Roth), and Retirement Plans for small businesses

Unlike other companies, we don't charge commissions for products we recommend. Instead, we receive a modest advisory fee based on the assets you invest with us. Because we don't receive commission, we are free to recommend products that we believe are right for you - not the ones that pay the highest commission.

Our alliance with Schwab Institutional provides access to thousands of mutual funds from well-known mutual fund companies, such as:

Vanguard, T. Rowe Price, Artisan, PIMCO, Fidelity, Dodge & Cox, American Century, and Royce

### OUR SERVICES

Once you become an advisory client, we will:

- Discuss your financial needs, goals and risk tolerance
- Recommend a portfolio of investments
- Monitor your investments to ensure they are performing up to expectations
- Replace underperforming investments
- Offer an annual review of your account
- Make appropriate adjustments to your investment portfolio as your financial needs and goals change

Contact Scarborough today at **(800) 223-7608** to find out how we can help you plan for retirement.

**UNION MEETING:**  
**Monday,**  
**February 4th, 2013**  
**7:00 PM**



Good News! Union Plus Disney discounts are once again available for working families at both **DISNEYLAND** and **Disney World**. Savings on 3-day and 4-day Park Hopper tickets and Water Park fun. To order tickets, call 1-800-565-3712 and reference Member ID #744387769 or visit the website at [www.UnionPlus.org](http://www.UnionPlus.org) for more info.



Deep discounts on **Six Flags** tickets nation wide. All entertainment and travel can be accessed through the Union Plus website.



**Deepest Sympathy to .....**

Tom Piazza (freelance) on the loss of his father.  
Ken Fabiszak (freelance) on the loss of his father.  
Condolences to these families during this difficult time.

**First Readings:**

Brian Butcher - FOX Sports freelance  
Glenn Wilson—CLTV  
Jason Vicks - WGN freelance  
Cary Pederson - CBS/WBBM

**Honorary Withdrawal**

Celeste Ball (WGN News writer) - transferring to WGN affiliate in CT.  
Timothy Pogorzala (freelance) - lack of work  
Neal Rogers (FOX freelance) - no IBEW work  
Rene Greblo (CBS freelance) - no IBEW work  
Michael Hirschberg (freelance) - accepted into IBEW 134 Apprenticeship Program

**New Members:**

Erik Beehler - FOX Sports freelance  
Alexander Steavpack - FOX freelance

(Continued from page 3)

He would no doubt applaud the Occupy Wall Street movement, and probably join it.

He would tell us to resist oppression by placing ourselves in the way of the powerful, when they are wrong and repressive, as they are when they cut funding for schools, try to block health care for all, attack Social Security and Medicare, hold down wages for workers, and destroy large swaths of our land in fracking for "the maximization of profit."

If he were here, I hope he would reaffirm his belief, so that we all could join him in it, that "the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice."

Jack Burgess is a southern Ohio writer and retired teacher of American and global studies. Published Friday, January 18, 2013

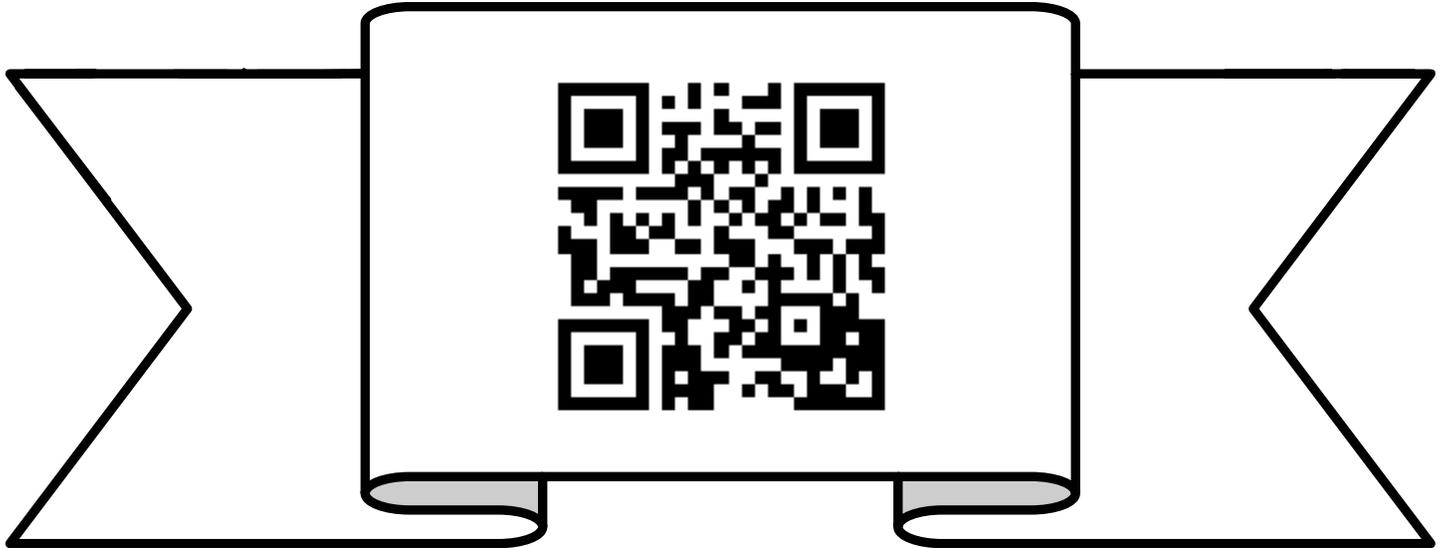
In Solidarity,

*Glenn Hannigan*

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**RADIO & TV BROADCAST ENGINEERS**

**IBEW LOCAL 1220**



**UNION MEETING**

**FEBRUARY 4, 2014 AT 7:00 PM**

**EFFECTIVE 1/1/2014, THE IBEW  
PER CAPITA RATE WILL BE INCREASED \$2.00 /  
MONTH**

**FREELANCE DUES WILL BE \$130.50 /QUARTER.**

**ALL MEMBERS WILL EXPERIENCE A \$6.00  
INCREASE PER QUARTER**

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Anything you might expect to read in a business letter or an email that pertains to this Local and your part in it will be communicated through this newsletter. Consider this your dues invoice, your bylaws updates, your meeting notice and your call to participate. If you would like to submit an idea or article for this newsletter, please contact the union office.

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